

TOWN BOARD

The Town Board, Town of Highlands, held a budget workshop on Monday, August 31, 2015 at Town Hall, 254 Main St, Highland Falls, at 6:00pm.

PRESENT:	Mervin R. Livsey	----	Supervisor
	William Edsall	----	Council Member
	James Stradley	----	Council Member (left 6:25pm)
	June Gunza	----	Council Member
	Adrienne T. Voltaire	----	Council Member
	Kelly Blauvelt	----	Comptroller
	June Patterson	----	Town Clerk
	John Hager	----	Bldg Inspector

Supervisor Livsey opened the workshop at 6:03pm.

Water/Sewer Points

Supervisor Livsey asked Mr. Hager if he had all the new hook-ups for water.

Mr. Hager said he believes he does. Mr. Hager said he doesn't have the numbers from the school yet, but should have them next week.

The Board discussed the water points with Mr. Hager.

The Board also reviewed the sewer points and changes made.

Building Dept.

Mr. Hager said there wasn't much change to his budget from last year except he put in for a part-time position for code enforcement in the Village.

Ms. Blauvelt suggested the Village hire someone who would work for Mr. Hager.

The Board discussed this position.

Supervisor Livsey asked Mr. Hager to let the Village know, at the next Department Head meeting, that the Town would accept a part-time employee from the Village.

Council Member Voltaire said \$15,000 could not be added into the budget.

Council Member Voltaire asked about codification.

TOWN BOARD

AUGUST 31, 2015

Mr. Hager explained that this is for updates to the code book. Mr. Hager said the Town also has e-code which is an additional cost.

Mr. Hager asked for a raise for his secretary.

Mr. Hager said he left the revenues about the same and said he would like to put some money in his Vehicle Reserve Fund.

The Board briefly discussed the Planning Board consolidation.

Receiver of Taxes

Ms. Blauvelt said the Receivers budget went up a little, the Sewer billing budget went down a little and the Water billing budget stayed the same.

Ms. Blauvelt said the revenues are down a little and explained that the interest is down.

Ms. Blauvelt said she and Mr. Patterson met with a representative from Schmidts to discuss meter reading equipment. Ms. Blauvelt explained the system that was discussed.

The Board discussed this further.

Ms. Blauvelt said she attended a meeting recently pertaining to KVS, her software system. Ms. Blauvelt said KVS was bought by Springbrook and bought again by Acela. Ms. Blauvelt said she sees KVS being phased out in the near future.

Assessor

Council Member Voltaire said Ms. Talman kept her budget about the same as last year. Ms. Voltaire said Ms. Talman lowered her postage budget by \$2,000.

Council Member Gunza asked if the money for the re-valuation is being left in.

Council Member Voltaire said that is not an accurate figure, they are not doing a re-valuation next year. Ms. Voltaire said the Town pays \$2,000 every year for maintenance.

Library

Council Member Gunza said she is not inclined to increase anything until the bottom line numbers are in.

Dial-A-Bus

Ms. Blauvelt said the Town received a check for 2013 Federal Bus Aid in the amount of \$35,000.

Ms. Blauvelt said the Dial-A-Bus budget is a little lower this year.

TOWN BOARD

AUGUST 31, 2015

The Board discussed the anticipated retirement of the full-time bus driver.

Misc

Ms. Blauvelt said she is waiting for the Fire District budget.

Ms. Blauvelt said insurance costs are being looked into and meetings with different representatives have begun.

Ms. Blauvelt said she had a Worker's Comp audit last week.

Council Member Edsall asked if Ms. Hurst checked into the street lighting program.

Ms. Blauvelt said she did.

Supervisor Livsey said Orange & Rockland does not have the program.

Ms. Blauvelt said the next budget workshop will be held on September 21 and she will have something solid to the Board before then.

Ms. Blauvelt said the police budget is increased for 2016.

Supervisor Livsey suggested, possibly, chopping four hours off of each part-time clerk. The Supervisor said he would sit with Ms. Blauvelt and come up with a plan.

Ms. Blauvelt said she needs to look at fund balances.

The Board discussed the Tax Stabilization fund and Ms. Blauvelt said the Board could do a resolution to move money from the General Reserve to the Tax Stabilization fund.

Council Member Edsall brought up the Police Department.

The Board discussed police.

ADJOURN

Supervisor Livsey made a motion seconded by Council Member Edsall to adjourn the workshop. Workshop adjourned at 7:40pm.

MOTION CARRIED: **4-ayes (Livsey, Edsall, Gunza, Voltaire)**
 0-nays
 1-absent (Stradley)

Attest,